

21ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CENTER FOR MEDICARE ADVOCACY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of the twenty-first anniversary of the Center for Medicare Advocacy. Headquartered in Willimantic, Connecticut, this national non-profit organization is dedicated to educating, advocating for, and providing legal assistance to older Americans and individuals with disabilities. Navigating the waters of the Medicare system can be daunting. However with groups such as CMA, eligible individuals are able to gain coverage and improved access to our health care system.

The Center for Medicare Advocacy was established in 1986 by Judith Stein, who today serves as the Executive Director. In the decade before the founding of the CMA, Ms. Stein was the Co-Director of Legal Assistance to Medicare Patients. There, she managed the first Medicare advocacy program in the country. That passion for advocacy carried over with the creation of the CMA. Most recently, Judith was appointed by Senator CHRIS DODD to the White House Council on Aging, where she served with distinction and was instrumental in crafting the Council's recommendations regarding Medicare improvements.

CMA, with its staff of nurses, attorneys, legal assistants, and information management specialists, has educated thousands of individuals. Their writings on Medicare are a valuable resource and set a high standard for Medicare related outreach. In Connecticut, the organization also provides legal training and support for the State health insurance and assistance program. Additionally, CMA has utilized their incredible wealth of experience to provide invaluable policy advice to the Connecticut Congressional delegation and Congress as a whole during debate over Medicare reform.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the contribution and public service provided by the Center for Medicare Advocacy and its founder Judith Stein, as the organization celebrates 21 years of support for our Nation's seniors and disabled persons.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN PHILLIPS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Phillips for his devotion and tireless efforts for the humane treatment and protection of animals.

As a longtime animal advocate, John Phillips was named the first ever Executive Director of the League of Humane Voters of New York City (LOHV-NYC) in 2004. Under his direction, LOHV-NYC has become a driving force for the defense of animals in New York City by raising tens of thousands of dollars and campaigning for dozens of humane candidates at the local and state level. He also helped organize the first ever humane lobby day, bringing dozens of animal advocates to City Hall to lobby their elected officials.

John Phillips' energy and passion for the creation of effective animal protection legislation at the local, state, and federal level has been a major force in fostering discussion of the issues most important to the LOHV-NYC.

His passion for the protection of animals and the education of people about the suffering of animals started at a young age, when he became a vegetarian at the age of 10 and a vegan at the age of 14. As well as becoming an animal activist, John Phillips has been involved with many other social justice groups, including those committed to the rights of the LGBT community, the homeless, and the environment.

In January 2007, John Phillips was awarded the In Defense of Animals' Companion Animal Guard for his work with LOHV-NYC. We should all take note of his devotion to the protection of animals and I would like to congratulate John Phillips on his many accomplishments.

CHRISTOPHER BRANDON GOODALE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Brandon Goodale, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Brandon Goodale for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, on September 7, 2007, I missed rollcall vote No. 864, on agreeing to the Conference Report on H.R. 2669, the College Cost Reduction Act. I was in Iraq, visiting Washington State soldiers. If I had been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, on behalf of more than 110,000 of my constituents who

are of Polish descent, I proudly rise to recognize the 70th anniversary of the Polish Museum of America.

The Polish community has existed in Chicago for more than two centuries, and few immigrant groups have come to Chicago in such consistent numbers over that period of time. Beginning in 1830 when three Polish people voted in the first Chicago mayoral election, the Polish community has left an indelible mark on Chicago's political, cultural, and economic development.

The Polish Museum of America is the oldest ethnic museum in the United States. Founded in 1935, the Museum has preserved the artistic, cultural, historic and literary heritage of Poles in America and throughout the world. More than 10,000 people visit the Museum every year.

The 1939 New York World's Fair included various international exhibits, one of which was Poland's pavilion. When Nazi Germany invaded Poland, it became clear that the exhibit at the World's Fair could not return to Poland. To preserve a portion of the exhibit, the directors of the Polish Museum of America purchased three-fourths of the exhibit from the Polish government. Today, the Museum displays the memorabilia from the 1939 New York World's Fair Polish Pavilion.

Today the Museum also houses the personal possessions of Ignacy Jan Paderewski. A pianist, composer and the third Prime Minister of Poland, Paderewski and his sister, Antonina, were avid supporters of the Museum. Students and researchers of Polish and Polish American history use the rich collections from the Polish Museum's Library and Archives that include collections on Kosciuszko and Pope John Paul II. The Museum also houses large collections of Polish folklore and an art gallery featuring several paintings by Jacek Malczewski and Olga Boznanska.

To commemorate the anniversary, the Polish Museum of America began a photo project to digitize more than 15,000 photographs of the Polish community in Chicago and the United States. They are also offering a traveling exhibit of Poles in Chicago, and are conducting inventories of publishing efforts in America during Germany's occupation of Poland in World War II.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Polish Museum of America on 70 years of enriching the culture of Chicago, and for continuing to be a hub of activity for Poles throughout Chicago and the country. I wish them continued success in the future.

IN HONOR OF DELAWARE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
2006-2007 PRESIDENT ALAN ROBINSON AND LADIES AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT FLORENCE LEGATES

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the fire service leadership in Delaware during the Annual Conference of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association.

Thousands of the citizens of Delaware participate as volunteer emergency responders